

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A multi-beam scanning device, comprising:

a light source that emits a plurality of light beams;

a polygonal mirror that scans by deflecting the light beams emitted by said light source; and

an optical system that converges the deflected light beams on a plurality of objects to be scanned, the plurality of objects being arranged on a side, with respect to said polygonal mirror, in which said light beams scan, from a position closer to said polygonal mirror to a position farther from said polygonal mirror,

said optical system including a plurality of optical path turning systems that turn optical paths of the deflected light beams, optical path lengths of the optical paths being substantially the same, and

all of said optical path turning systems including an even number of reflection surfaces.
2. (Previously Presented) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 1, further comprising an f Θ lens including a first lens, a second lens and a plurality of third lenses, all the deflected light beams passing through said first lens and said second lens, each deflected light beam passed through said first lens and said second lens passing through one of the plurality of third lenses, said plurality of optical path turning systems

receiving said plurality of light beams that emerge from said second lens and directing the received light beams to said plurality of third lenses.

3. (Previously Presented) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 2, each of said optical path turning systems including a first reflection surface and a second reflection surface, each light beam emerged from said second lens being incident on the first reflection surface of one of said optical path turning systems, each optical path including a first optical path defined between said second lens and said first reflection surface, a second optical path defined between said first reflection surface and said second reflection surface, and a third optical path defined between said second reflection surface and said objects.

4. (Currently Amended) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 3, wherein the third optical path is located closest to said polygonal mirror and passes between said polygonal mirror and said first lens.

5. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, wherein at least one of said optical path turning systems includes a first mirror and a second mirror, said first reflection surface being a reflection surface of said first mirror, said second reflection surface being a reflection surface of said second mirror.

6. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, wherein at least one of said optical path turning systems includes a prism having two reflection surfaces, said first reflection surface being one of the reflection surfaces of said prism, said second reflection surface being the other one of the reflection surfaces of said prism.

7. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, wherein at least one of said optical path turning systems includes a prism having a reflection surface and a mirror having a reflection surface, said first reflection surface being one of the reflection surfaces of said prism and said mirror, said second reflection surface being the other one of the reflection surfaces of said prism and said mirror.

8. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, wherein each of said optical paths is configured such that the third optical path intersects with the first optical path.

9. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, wherein each of said optical paths is configured such that the beam proceeding along the second optical path is directed on an opposite side, with respect to the first optical path, of said objects to be scanned.

10. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, wherein said first lens has a positive power mainly in the main scanning direction in which the plurality of light beams scan.

11. (Original) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 4, said second lens having a positive power only in a main scanning direction in which the plurality of light beams scan.

12. (Original) The scanning device according to claim 4, wherein each of said third lenses has a positive power mainly in an auxiliary scanning direction, which is perpendicular to a main scanning direction where the light beams.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 1, wherein each of said optical path turning systems has the same number of reflection surfaces.

16. (New) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 1, wherein said optical path turning systems converge the deflected light beams on said plurality of objects, said plurality of objects being arranged in a plane substantially parallel to the deflected light beams.

17. (New) The multi-beam scanning device according to claim 1, wherein each of said optical path turning systems reflect a deflected light beam an even number of times.